

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

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/William R. Allen/
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May 4, 2007
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Bogdan Radu et al.	Confirmation No.:	5461
Serial No.:	10/711,462		
Filed:	September 20, 2004		
Examiner:	David J. Makiya		
Art Unit:	2885		
Title:	DOOR TRIM BOLSTER WITH ELECTROLUMINESCENT LAMP AND INJECTION MOLDING METHOD OF MAKING SAME		
Attorney Docket:	MASLIAC-57		

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner of Patents
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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Applicant's undersigned counsel notes the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached with the Notice of Allowability. The reasons set forth by the Examiner refer only to some of the features in independent claims 2 and 10, and are not the only reasons that all of the claims are allowable.

With respect to independent claim 2, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest an automotive interior component for a vehicle door, comprising: a door trim panel capable of being mounted to the vehicle door, said door trim panel including an opening; a bolster engaged with said door panel to conceal said opening; and an electroluminescent lamp mounted to said bolster, said electroluminescent lamp emitting visible light, when powered, that illuminates at least a portion of said door trim panel, wherein said bolster and said electroluminescent lamp are integrally molded to

define a unitary construction. Dependent claims 3 and 5-9 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 2. Accordingly, each of dependent claims 3 and 5-9 is believed to be allowable based upon at least the allowability of independent claim 1 and, furthermore, upon other features set forth in dependent claims 3 and 5-9 but not discussed herein.

With respect to independent claim 10, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest a method of making an automotive interior trim assembly including a bolster and a trim panel, the method comprising: placing an electroluminescent lamp between mold sections of a mold; closing the mold sections to form a mold cavity with a geometrical shape resembling the bolster; injecting a molten polymer resin into the mold cavity to fill a portion of the mold cavity unfilled by the electroluminescent lamp; opening the mold sections after the molten polymer resin solidifies; ejecting the bolster from the mold; and coupling the bolster to the trim panel. Dependent claim 11 depends from independent claim 10. Accordingly, dependent claim 11 is believed to be allowable based upon at least the allowability of independent claim 10 and, furthermore, upon other features set forth in dependent claim 11 but not discussed herein.

If the Examiner disagrees with any of these comments, he is respectfully requested to provide further explanation on the record. Applicant does not believe that any fees are due in connection with this submission. However, if such petition is due or any fees are necessary, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

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